233 troughs of clay are constructed near the water holds into which
[312] the drinking water is scooped. As in our Alps, the hill slopes bear the imprint of the hooves of the cattle in the form of innumerable little steps and paths since the grazing cattle will usually move along the slope in a horizontal direction which is more comfortable for grazing.

In the months after the rains the cattle can gorge themselves on green grass and they then look quite attractive, but during the dry months when all the grass is parched to a gray-brown color, the cattle become so lean that one can count all their ribs. In Urundi during the months of September and October I have seen, almost without exception, cattle which were very emaciated. Only the herds of the chiefs preserve their healthy appearance in the dry period since the best grazing land is reserved for them. The general impression is that both
[137] in Urundi and Ruanda, which are both almost exclusively grasslands, good nourishing pastures are not very extensive. It is possible to wander for days over chains of hills and plains in the sterile, thinly populated quartzite areas of the east where the growth of grass is so poor that it is not worthwhile for the natives to burn it. Since the hill ridges and the valleys in the
[311] populated areas of central and western Urundi are covered with homesteads and fields, insofar as the valleys are not filled with papyrus swamps, in general only the hill slopes for pastures. However, since every year the dry expanse of grass on them is burned off in order to obtain a new growth of green grass as soon as possible and to destroy the vermin noxious to cattle, the quality, the food value, of the grass [43] cannot improve. Also, if the herds multiply greatly, as in the northwestern areas of Urundi and in most of Ruanda, the pastures are soon over-
[246] stocked. The Batussi and Bahutu do not grow any fodder with a high food value which could compensate for the lack of good grazing land. As a result most cattle suffer from malnutrition, and if then a contagious disease is brought into the country or if it is caused in the area itself through infectious vermin, etc., the animals with low resistance succumb to it in great numbers. The available grazing land is then sufficient for the

234 Butter is not eaten. It is used to anoint the body and to
302 smear on clothes. Large gourds (kisabo) are used for making butter;
they are held at the neck with one hand and rocked back and
415 forth on the ground. Butter is stored in small clay [143] and
wooden vessels (akachendo). The latter often have looped handles
and are then called uchende yo mukondo.

233 The local form of intensive agriculture on very fertile soil
is not easy to combine with the extremely extensive cattle raising.
Barn feeding is unknown. The animals graze all day in the open
and are locked into the kraal (lugo) at night. Thus, even in the
densely populated and highly agricultural regions, it is very diffi-
cult to keep even the milch cows near the settlements. The rest
of the animals are driven out to more remote pastures. For ex-
ample, the Bagoye drive their cows eastward into the primeval
233 forest on the watershed. The animals are cared for by special
465 Batutsi caretakers who are paid to do this. For his service the
herdsman gets the milk the first two months, since the cow is not
returned to the owner until her calf is two months old. The
herdsman also gets a jug of beer worth one hoe. He is, however,
held accountable for the cow and must replace animals which are
killed or stolen.

●246 Pastures receive no special attention. On the northern slope
of Mount Ndisa, however, I saw an irrigation system that watered
the mountain meadows. Otherwise the steppes are merely burned
off at the end of the dry season; this removes the withered grass
and the young grass comes up abundantly after the first rain, the
ground having been fertilized by the ashes. Needless to say, grass
fires have greatly contributed to the deforestation of Ruanda, espe-
cially in the less populated areas. Granted that the forests have
been destroyed by the farmers, nevertheless it is the herdsmen who
make a second growth impossible. Grass fires rage throughout the
country. In Mulera and Bugoye where everything is under cultiva-
tion, one sees fires only on the volcanic plains.

233 Since no fodder is stored, the cattle become very thin during
661 the dry season. It is not uncommon for Batutsi chiefs to have their
herds driven into the sweet potato plantations of their farmers,
where great damage is done. No matter how great their loss, the
Bahutu cannot drive the cows out nor resist in any way.